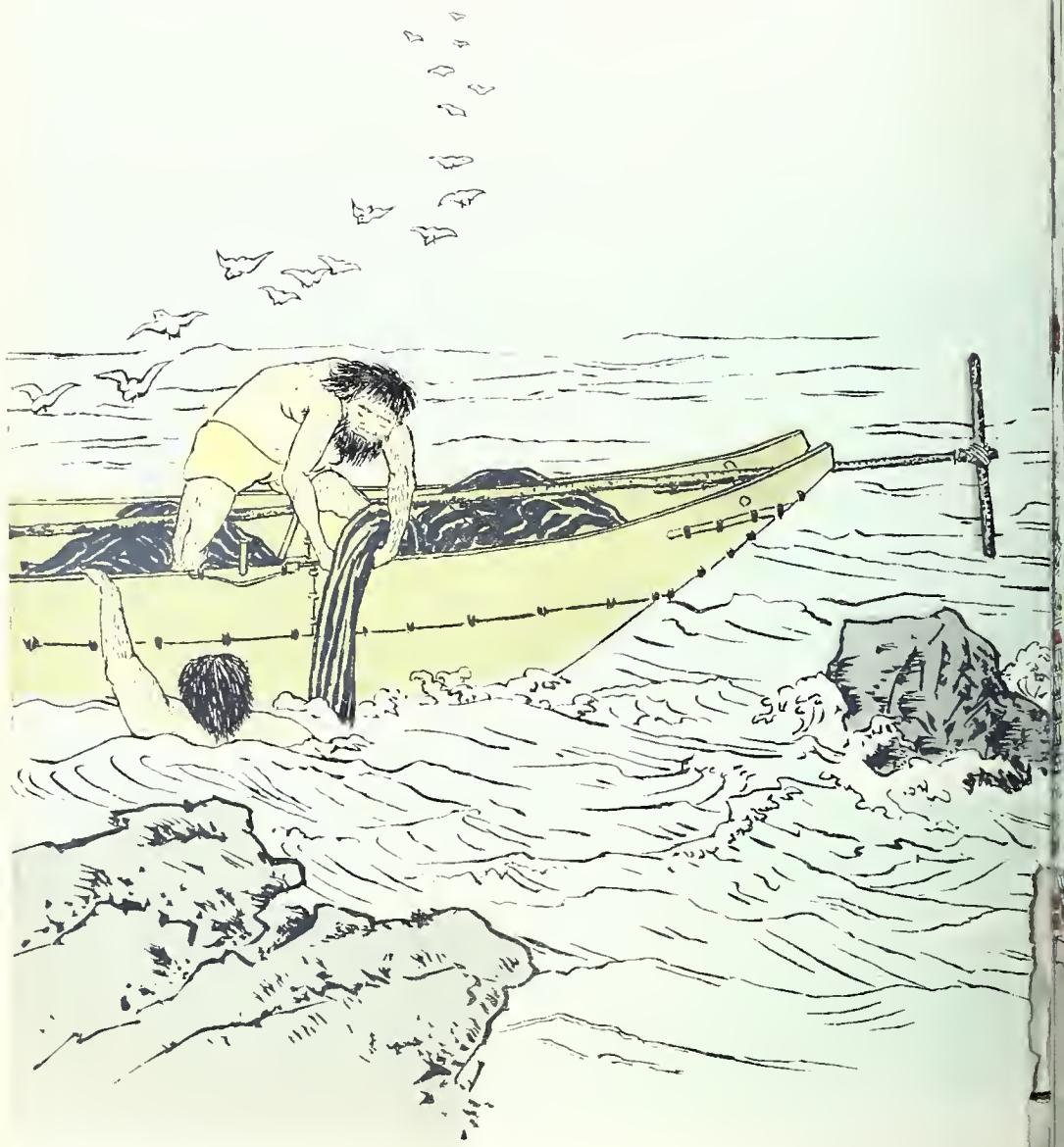


An Itinerary of Hokkaido Japan.

Presented by
The Hakodate Chamber of Commerce.



AN

ITINERARY OF HOKKAIDO,

J A P A N.

BY THE

REV. JOHN BATCHELOR.

*Compiler of 'An Ainu-English-Japanese Dictionary,'
Author of 'An Ainu Grammar,' Transliterator of the
'Nippon Seikokai Kitobun,' Author of 'Specimens
of Ainu Folklore,' 'Notes on the Ainu'
'The Ainu of Japan,' etc., etc.*

PRESNTED BY

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PREFACE.

THE production of this little book was not a self-imposed task, but was undertaken at the special request of the Hokkaidô Chamber of Commerce. This fact will, it is hoped, be taken as an apology for its appearance. When honoured with the invitation to write a work on Hokkaidô, I confess that I felt some diffidence in undertaking the task, especially when I learned that it was to be given to those visitors of the "World's Fair" who should inspect the Hokkaidô section of that grand exhibition, but more particularly as my first and chief duties have to do with Missionary work among the Ainu and not with book-making for English readers. But when I found that the work required of me consisted for the most part in arranging, condensing, and copying notes I already had in manuscript, thus involving but a trifle of my time, I considered it to be my duty not to lightly set aside a request issuing from so important a body of gentlemen as the Hakodate Chamber of Commerce. Hence the appearance of the work. The instructions given me by that body consisted merely in two things; first, to give a brief geographical outline of Hokkaidô, and *secondly*, to write a short itinerary for the use of intending visitors to this part of Japan. In every case therefore I have endeavoured to be as concise as clearness and justice to the subject would permit. My best thanks are due to the officers of the Dô-cho for the assistance kindly rendered.

me in the matter of statistics; to Dr. Miyabe for his kindness in assisting me in the matter of flora, and to Mr. Kodera for kindly helping me in the subject of zoology. The Hakodate Chamber of Commerce, however, is in no way responsible for any of the shortcomings of this work: they are my own entirely.

JOHN BATCHELOR.

Satporo, January 1893.

AN
ITINERARY OF HOKKAIDO,
JAPAN.
BY THE REV. J. BATCHELOR.

SECTION I.

GENERAL REMARKS ON HOKKAIDO.

I.—GEOGRAPHY.

The Islands of Hokkaidô,* whose productions are exhibited in this section of the World's Fair, form the northernmost limits of the Empire of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the "Land of the Rising Sun." The islands consist of two special divisions, a greater and a lesser. The greater division comprises one large island somewhat resembling a ray-fish in shape, and covers, according to the latest survey returns, an area of some 34,875 English square miles. Until within quite recent times this very important part of Japan was known to foreigners by the name of Yezo,† which designation will, for the sake of avoiding any geographical or topographical misunderstanding, be retained in this little work when speaking of this division of Hokkaidô.

In the south, Yezo, is divided from the main island of Japan by the deep Strait of Tsugaru, forming what is called "Blakiston's Line," from the name of the late Captain T. W. Blakiston, R. A., whose explorations in this country are well known, having been given to the world in his "Yezo in Japan." This Strait, which has a very strong current, is about ten sea-miles across at its narrowest part. On the north, Yezo is divided from Saghalien by the Strait De la Pérouse, whose width is said to be about twenty-five sea-miles. On the west it is bounded by the Japan

* Hokkaidô means "Northern Sea Road."

† Yezo is probably a corruption of the Ainu word *Eso* meaning "game," or "abounding in game."

and Tartar Seas, and on the east and north-east by the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Okhotsk. The limits of latitude and longitude are:—The eastern limit E. L. $145^{\circ} 49' 30''$; the western E. L. $139^{\circ} 35''$; the southern limit is N. L. $41^{\circ} 23' 10''$; and the northern N. L. $45^{\circ} 31''$.

2.—HISTORY OF YEZO.

In the earliest historical records of Japan there is no mention made of Yezo, but later on we find that all the land north of Sendai, where the Ainu or aborigines of old Japan dwelt even till quite within historical times, had that name applied to it. The Ainu themselves were called *Yezo-chi*, “Men of Yezo,” and the country in which they lived, in whatever part of Japan it may have been, was designated *Yezo-chi* and *Yezo*, i.e. “The land of Yezo.” More recently, however, the *Yezo-jin* having been gradually driven north-ward, they left the Mainland of Japan altogether and crossed to Hokkaidō; and these islands then had the name Yezo specially applied to them by the Japanese people. In later years, the Japanese still successfully carrying on the conquest of this race, Yezo was in the year 1604, after having been partly conquered and colonized by Takeda Nobuhiru, delivered over to Matsumae Yoshihiro by Tokugawa Ieyasu. Murray’s Hand-book for Japan says:—“Matsumae’s successors, whose seat of Government was at the town of Matsumae, recently renamed Fukuyama, continued to rule over the W. portion of the island down to 1868. From toward the end of the 18th century, the eastern half had, with the exception of a break from 1820 to 1854, been administered by officials of the Shōgunate. After the overthrow of the Tokugawa family and the consequent mediatisation of the Daimyōs, Yezo was placed under a special Department, entitled *Kaitakushi* (Colonization Commission), created *ad hoc*. and henceforth was regarded as a part of Japan proper. It received the designation of Hokkaidō, or “Circuit of the Northern Sea,” and was divided into nine* provinces, in order to assimilate it more closely to the rest of the Empire.

* The number of provinces into which Yezo was divided was not nine, as Murray says but ten.

Hokkaidô is now, however, divided into eleven provinces, namely, Oshima ; Shiribeshi ; Ishikari ; Teshio ; Kitami ; Iburi ; Hitaka ; Tokachi ; Kushiro ; Nemuro ; and the Kurile Islands, now called Chishima. "Yezo had been formerly resorted to," again says Murray, "by the Northern Japanese chiefly for the sake of the fisheries; but attempts were now made to induce the natives of other parts of Japan to migrate thither as agricultural settlers, and with the aid of a number of Americans, headed by General Capron, public works were commenced on an extensive scale with the object of developing the resources of the island The Kaitakushi was dissolved and the government of the island assimilated to the prefectoral system of the rest of the Empire."

With regard to the attempts made to colonize this part of Japan here referred to by Murray, it may be remarked that, while in the year 1874 there were but 144,069 persons in Hokkaidô, including the Ainus, in the year 1891 there were 389,749 Japanese there as well as 16,765 Ainus, thus making a total of 406,514 persons; and these are yearly increasing. The present Capital of Hokkaidô is Satporo, founded in the year 1870; and the chief ports of Yezo are :—Hakodate; Moruran ; Kushiro ; Akkeshi ; and Nemoro, on the S. E. coast, and Otaru, twenty-two English miles by rail from Satporo, on the west.

3.—CHISHIMA.

The other or lesser division of Hokkaidô comprises that group or chain of islands which lie to the N. E. of Yezo, known as the "Kuriles," the largest of which are Kunashiri, Etorop, and Paramoshiri. This group was formerly Russian territory, but was ceded to Japan in the year 1876 in exchange for Saghalien. All these islands have not yet been surveyed, but their total area is estimated at some 6,456 square miles. The name of this group is now Chishima, which designation will always be applied to them in this work when speaking of them as a whole.

4.—OTHER ISLANDS.

Besides these two main divisions of Hokkaidô, there are a number of islands about the coast of Yezo, but these, with the ex-

ception perhaps of Okushiri, which lies off the west coast to the north of Esashi, call for no special remark. Okushiri is an interesting island because it is the only district in the Japanese Empire where strong drink is prohibited. It is about fourteen miles in length by seven broad at its widest part. The population, which lives by fishing, numbered in 1892, two hundred and nine persons. Three policemen are kept on the island and in the year 1891 there were three arrests: one for each police-man! The total area therefore of that part of Japan now called Hokkaidô, may, according to the very latest survey returns, be computed at 43.360 square miles.

5.—PHYSICAL FEATURES OF HOKKAIDÔ ; VOLCANOES.

Hokkaidô may be said to be a very nest of active and dormant volcanoes. In Yezo itself there are no less than eighteen; in the three islands of Kunashiri, Etorop, and Shikotan of the Chishima group there are fourteen; while in the other islands of Chishima there are supposed to be thirty, thus making a total of sixty-two. From this we would be naturally led to suppose that of all places in the world Hokkaidô would surely be the greatest for earthquakes. But such however is by no means the case; earth-quakes are neither so frequent nor severe here as they are in other parts of Japan.

6.—MOUNTAINS.

Like every other part of the Empire, Hokkaidô is distinctively mountainous, and as is the case with all countries of this description, has consequently many beautiful and picturesque peeps of scenery about it, which are well worth a visit. But while it is very mountainous it must not be supposed that it has no plains or flat land about it. The open plain alone is estimated at 1,231,701,134 *tsubos* ($1\ tsubo = 6\ sq.\ ft.$). Nor do the mountain ranges attain to the altitude of those in the Main Island of Japan. The three highest peaks in Yezo are:—Nutapka-ushbe of about 7,300 ft.; Optateshke about 6,500 ft.; and Yupai about 6,540 ft. high. The quiescent volcano hitherto improperly called Shiribeshi-yama by the Japanese, but whose real name is Makkarip-nupuri, is spoken of in Japanese books as the *Fuji-no-yama* of the north. And

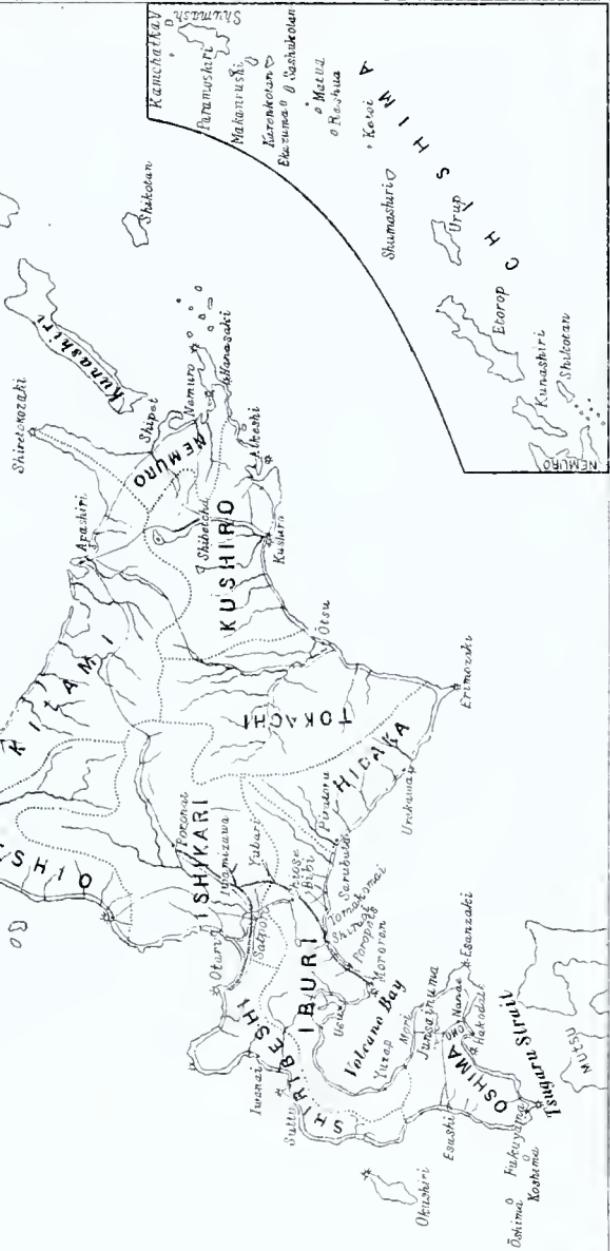
MAP
OF
HOKKAIDO

Oblique Islets.

Seyo.

Repusashiri-o
Rishiri-o

HOKKAIDO



indeed, seen from a distance, towering as it does above its fellows, it really forcibly reminds one of that beautiful peak, for in shape it very much resembles it. But in actual height it is not quite half that of *Fuji*, it being little more than 6,400 ft. high. From the top of this mountain a fine and peculiarly wild view of the surrounding country may be had, but the ascent is very difficult, there being no path-way.

7.—ARABLE LANDS.

Nor again must it be supposed that because a great deal of Hokkaidô is of volcanic origin and mountainous that arable land is scarce and the soil poor; or because the winter is long and cold and the summer said to be short that the land is useless and unproductive. The country is covered all the summer with luxuriant vegetation and the mountains are well clothed with fine timber. The woodlands, abounding in timber, are estimated at 665,229,710 *tsubos*. There are 1,173,065,452 *tsubos* well covered with grass and fit for pasturage. There are 41,453, *chô* under actual cultivation ($1 \text{ chô} = 3,000 \text{ tsubos}$ or 108,000 sq. fit.); while there are 986,757,597 *tsubos* suitable for direct cultivation, and other 276,142,274 *tsubos* arable after proper drainage. Wheat, barley, rye, oats, and millet, and many varieties of vegetables thrive well in Hokkaidô, as do also apples, pears, plums, currants, gooseberries, strawberries and raspberries. The Satporo apples and pears are very much sought after in other parts of Japan, and are much superior to those imported from elsewhere.

8.—CLIMATE.

It is true indeed that some people find Yezo cold in winter, nevertheless, it is, in the interior at least, a dry, crisp and healthy cold, and although the land is from four to five months under snow the summer is warm; the climate is in fact much more bracing than that of any other part of Japan. It is recommended by medical men to the European and American inhabitants of Hongkong and other parts of China, as well as to the foreign residents of Southern Japan, as a good health resort. The present

writer can himself testify to the bracing qualities of Yezo air, for he came to this island early in the year 1877 on account of ill health and has found the climate most beneficial. The average seasonal temperature at Satporo for the years 1890-91 is given at :—Spring 6.36. C.; Summer 18.58. C.; Autunn 10.2. C.; and Winter 4.16. C. This, it will be remarked, shows Hokkaidō to be by far more pleasant than disagreeable.

9.—WATER.

There is perhaps no country better watered than Yezo. The rivers and brooklets are very numerous, and there are also quite a number of beautiful lakes and lakelets, and, especially about the coasts of Kitami and Tokachi, some pretty extensive swamps. The rivers vary from 15 *ri* (1 *ri*=close upon 2½ English miles) to 96 *ri* in length, and number no less than thirty-three. The wet land and marsh is estimated at 276,068,324 *tsubos*. The country also abounds in mineral waters and hot springs. Fish of various kinds may be found in nearly all the lakes and rivers, and these, together with water-fowl of various descriptions afford pleasant diversion and plenty of exercise to the sportsman. The largest lakes in Yezo are :—Saruma in the province of Kitami, Shikot and Toya in Iburi, and Kushiro-ko in the province of Kushiro. Among the smaller ones, those of Akan in the province of Kushiro and Junsai-numa at the foot of Koma-ga-take (about three hours journey from Hakodate) are especially worth visiting. Without further mentioning the smaller rivers, the three largest are the Ishikari, about 96 *ri* long; the Teshio about 74, and the Tokachi which is about 53 *ri* in length. Some very good views of the Ishikari can be had by taking a short journey from Satporo; by visiting the Horonai coal mine, or by travelling by rail from Moruran to Satporo or *vice versa*. The average annual rain-fall at Satporo for the last five years is given at 1,029.4 mm.

10.—FLORA.

The late Captain Blakiston, and others after him, has mentioned that Yezo belongs to a different sub-region from the other parts of the Japanese Empire. Further investigations by Japanese gentle-

men on the spot go to emphasize the truth of Blakiston's remarks on this subject. I am indebted to Dr. Miyabe of the Agricultural College, Satporo, for the following list of some of the trees, shrubs, and herbs found in Hokkaidō but which have not yet been discovered in the main islands of Japan.

(a) *Trees.*— JAPANESE NAME.

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| <i>Abies sachalinensis</i> , Masters | <i>Todomatsu.</i> |
| <i>Acer Miyabei</i> , Maxim | <i>Kurobi-itaya.</i> |
| <i>Crataegus chlorosarca</i> , Maxim | <i>Ezo-ô-sangashi.</i> |
| <i>Larix dahurica</i> , Turcz. var. <i>japonica</i> , | |
| Maxim..... | <i>Gui-matsu.</i> |
| <i>Picea ajanensis</i> , Fisch..... | <i>Ezo-matsu.</i> |
| <i>Picea Glehni</i> , Masters | <i>Aka-ezo-matsu.</i> |

(b) *Shrubs.*—

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <i>Daphniphyllum humibe</i> , Maxim ... | <i>Ezo-yuzuriha.</i> |
| <i>Daphne Yesoensis</i> , Maxim..... | <i>Nami-wazu.</i> |
| <i>Lonicera Maximowiczi</i> , Rupr. | <i>Beni-bana kyôtanboku.</i> |
| <i>Myrica Gale</i> , L..... | <i>Ezo-yamamono.</i> |
| <i>Ribes laxiflorum</i> , Pursh | <i>Toga-suguri.</i> |
| <i>Rhodedendron parvifolium</i> , Ad. ... | <i>Ezo-murasaki-tsutsuji.</i> |

(c) *Herbs.*—

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <i>Anemone dichotoma</i> , L. | <i>Aush-kina.</i> |
| <i>Artemisia sacrorum</i> , var. <i>latifolia</i> , | |
| _{Ledeb.} | <i>Iwa-yomogi.</i> |
| <i>Cardamine yezoensis</i> , Maxim | <i>Ezo-wasabi,</i> |
| <i>Clematis fusca</i> . Turcz. var. <i>yezoensis</i> | |
| Miyabe | <i>Kuro-bana hansozuru.</i> |
| <i>Lilium dahuricum</i> , Gawl | <i>Ezo-no-sukashi-yuri.</i> |
| <i>Rubus chamaemorus</i> , L. | <i>Horomui-ichigo.</i> |
| <i>Stellaria yezoensis</i> , Maxim | <i>Ezo-fusuma.</i> |
| <i>Viola yezoensis</i> , Maxim..... | <i>Ezo-no-kosumire.</i> |

All the ferns with the exception of the *Aspidium fragrans*, Swartz, that have been found growing in Yezo, have also been found in Japan proper. This fern, it will be remembered, also grows in the northern parts of Asia, in Europe, and also in North America.

Of plants which have showy flowers, and which would most likely attract the attention of travellers, the following may be worth mentioning in this place to save again returning to the subject of the flora.

1.—*Lilies.* JAPANESE NAME.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lilium Glehni, Fr. Schm. | <i>Uba-yuri.</i> |
| „ avenaceum, Fisch | <i>Kuruma-yuri.</i> |
| „ Nansonii, Baker | <i>O-kuruma-yuri.</i> |

2.—*The black lily.*

- Fritillaria kamtschatcensis, Cawl ... *Kuro-yuri.*

3.—*Day lilies.*

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Hemerocallis Dumortieri, Morr. ... | <i>Mime-kwanzô.</i> |
| „ Minor, Mill..... | <i>Kisuge.</i> |

4.—*Lily of the valley.*

- Convallaria majalis, L. *Suzuran* or *Kimikakesô.*

5.—*Orchids*

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Orchis aristata, Fisch..... | <i>Hakusan-chidori.</i> |
| Calanthe discolor, Lindl. | <i>Ebine.</i> |
| „ tricarinata, Lindl. | <i>Sarmen-ebine.</i> |

6.—*Ladies-slippers.*

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cypripedium Japonicum, Th. | <i>Kumagai-sô.</i> |
| „ macranthum, Sw. | <i>Atsumori-sô.</i> |
| „ guttatum, Sw. | <i>Kuhiro-atoumori.</i> |

7.—*Roses.*

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| Rosa rugosa, Th. | <i>Hamanasu.</i> |
| „ acicularis, Lindl. | <i>Takane-bara.</i> |
| „ multiflora, Thunb. var. adenophoro, Fr. st. Sav. | <i>Nobara.</i> |

8.—*Hydrangeas.*

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Hydrangea paniculata, Sieb. | <i>Nori-no-ki</i> or <i>Sobita.</i> |
| „ Hortensia, &c. var. acuminata, a. gray. ... | <i>Amacha.</i> |

Also the climbing Hydrangeas.

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| Hydrangea scandens, Max. | <i>Tsuru-Azisai.</i> |
| Schizaphragna hydrangeoides, Sieb. et Zucc. | <i>Iwagarami</i> |

9.—*Early spring flowers.*

- Adonis amurensis, Regel et Radd.... *Fukuju-sô* or *Mansaku.*

- Anemone Raddeana, Reg. *Urabeni-ichige-sô*.
 Lysichiton kanischatcensis, Schott ... *Mizu-bashô*.
 Glancidium palmatum, Sieb. et Zucc. *Shirane-aoi* or *Yama-botan*.
 Corydalis ambigua, Cham. et

10.—*Rhododendrons and Azaleas.*

- Rhododendron brachycarpum, Don. *Shakunage*.
 ,, Parvifolium, Ad. ... *Ezo-murasaki-tsutsuji*.
 ,, chrysantherm, Pall. *Kibana-shakunage*.
 ,, Albrechtii, Maxim... *Murasaki-yashio-tsutsuji*.
 ,, indicum, Sweet, var.
 koempsleri, Max. *Yama-tsutsuji*.
 .. kamtschaticum, Pall. *Ezo-tsutsuji*.

11.—Plants bearing edible berries.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>Actinidia arguta</i> , Planch | <i>Kokuwa</i> . |
| <i>Fragaria elatior</i> , Ehrh. | { <i>Shirobana-no-hebiichigo</i> .
<i>Ainu-Furep.</i> |
| <i>Rubus parvifolius</i> , L. | <i>Nawa-shio-ichigo.</i> |
| ,, <i>Idacus</i> , L. var. <i>strigulus</i> , | |
| Maxim | <i>Ezo-ichigo.</i> |
| ,, <i>phoeniceolarius</i> , Max. | <i>Urajiro-ichigo.</i> |
| ,, <i>occidentalis</i> , L. var. <i>Japonicus</i> Migabe | <i>Kuro-ichigo.</i> |
| <i>Ribes petracum</i> , Blolf. var. <i>tomentosum</i> Max | <i>Ezo-suzuri.</i> |
| ,, <i>rubrum</i> , L. var. <i>bracteosum</i> , | |
| Max. and others | <i>Tokachi-suzuri.</i> |

12.—*Plants bearing poisonous berries.*

- (a)—*Coriaria Japonica*, a. Gray ... $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Doku-utsugi \text{ or } Kawara- \\ utsugi. \end{array} \right.$

This is a small shrub 2 to 3 ft. high growing usually on the gravelly banks of rivers and streams, with opposite, simple, entire leaves, and with elongated clusters of fleshy five-angled red berries, which are very poisonous.

- (b)—*Lonicera Morrowi*, a. Gray { *Futakorobi*; *Bushidama*; *Futako-shiba*.

This is a shrub 4 to 6 ft. high, growing chiefly along the coasts of the provinces of Oshima; Iburi; Shiribeshi and Ishikari, with leaves which are simple, opposite, entire, oblong and hairy, and with red attractive berries of about the size of a pea, which are always borne at the end of the stalk in pairs. A discription of these poisonous plants is here given as a warning to travellers, for a lady who visited Yezo once ate some those berries and suffered greatly in consequence.

II.—ZOOLOGY.

Not only do differences exist between the Flora of Japan proper and Hokkaidô, but there are also found zoological differences. I am indebted to Mr. K. Kodera of the Satporo Agricultural College for the following list of Mammalia and birds peculiar to Hokkaidô.

(a) <i>Mammalia</i> .—	JAPANESE NAME.
<i>Conis familiaris</i> (Yessoana)	<i>Ainu-inu</i> .
„ sp.: (Black fox)	<i>Kuro-gitsune</i> .
<i>Enhydris marina</i> , Erxl	<i>Rakko</i> .
<i>Mustela brachyura</i> , Gray	<i>Ezo-ten</i> .
„ sp.	<i>Ezo-itachi</i> .
<i>Irichechus rosmerus</i> , L.	<i>Sei-uchi</i> .
<i>Ursus arctos</i> , L.	<i>Aka-guma</i> .
„ <i>maritimus</i> , Desm.....	<i>Shiro-guma</i> .
<i>Iamias stratus</i> , L.	<i>Shima-nezumi</i> .

(b) *Birds*.—

<i>Acredula caudata</i> , L.	<i>Shima-enega</i> .
<i>Bubo blakistoni</i> , Sieb.....	<i>O-mimi-zuku</i> .
<i>Oryocopus martinus</i> , L.....	<i>Kuma-gera</i> .
<i>Garrulus brandti</i> , Everson.....	<i>Miyama-kakesu</i> .
<i>Gecinus canus</i> , Zin.	<i>Yama-gera</i> .
<i>Picus minor</i> , L.	<i>Seberia-kozera</i> .
<i>Tetrastes bonasiaurus</i> , L.	<i>Ezo-raicho</i> .

12.—MINERALS.

It is no uncommon thing to hear the Japanese call Hokkaidô the *Zeni-bako* (money-box) of Japan. And truly there are many grounds for applying such a name to it, both because of its mineral wealth and also on account of the abundant supply of fish, in endless varieties, to be found frequently its coasts. The principal useful minerals to be found in Hokkaidô are:—Coal in rich abundance, Sulphur, Silver, Lead, Copper, Lime-stone, Gold sand, Magnetic iron and Diatom earth, Clay and Petroleum. Coal and sulphur are, however, the only minerals worked. Coal mines have been opened at Poronai (sixteen *ri* from Satporo); Ikusumbetsu (eighteen *ri* from Satporo); Ota-ush-nai (close to the Sorachi river); Yubari Hasutori (one *ri* from Kushiro); and at Shiranuka (seven *ri* West of Kushiro). Sulphur is worked at Atusa-nupuri about twenty-four *ri* north of Kushiro town; Iwaw-nupuri about five *ri* south of Iwanai, and at Ichibishinai on the southern part of the Island of Kunashiri in the Chishima group.

10.—FISH.

Bounded as these islands are by the sea, hundreds of fishermen find plenty of employment for many months in the year, and are well paid for their labour; for besides those fish used for general consumption in Japan, having the Chinese coast so near at hand, there is always a ready market to be found for dried fish of every description as well as for sea-weed. The chief products of the waters immediately around Hokkaidô are, herrings, salmon, salmon-trout, cod-fish, tunny, skate, gurnard, sardines, flounders, cuttle-fish, sharks, sturgeon, sea-ear, oysters, scallops, crabs, and sea-weed. The total value for the year 1890 was *yen* 7,964,669. The herrings and sardines are caught chiefly for the sake of the oil and guano they yield. The salmon, trout, cod-fish and others are dried for export, as are the shark-fins, which are considered a great delicacy by the Chinese.

14.—COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF HOKKAIDO.

This brief outline of Hokkaidô and short enumeration of its principal products are fully sufficient to show its wealth and prove

its paramount importance to the rest of the Japanese Empire. Not only so, but the industries now already actually entered upon, and the rapid immigrations now taking place show clearly that the Japanese people are fully alive to its importance. Indeed, Hokkaidô, situated as it is in close proximity to Russia and China, must in future rise to still higher importance, and nothing will serve to stimulate the Japanese to the internal development of these islands than the trade to be looked for when the Siberian railway shall have become an accomplished fact, or when the steam-ships begin to run direct from America through the Strait of Tsugaru, (thus bringing them within four hours of Hakodate), to Shanghai, should that route ever be taken. Altogether we are disposed to look upon Hokkaidô with all its resources as having a great and prosperous future before it.

SECTION II.

THE ITINERARY.

I.—COMMUNICATION.

Rapid and safe communication between Hokkaidô and the United States and Canada as well as Europe by first class Mail Steamers is now thoroughly established; and the facilities for getting to these islands are of much comfort and advantage to foreign tourists who are desirous of paying flying visits to this hitherto almost unexplored region. It is now merely a matter of getting on board a Mail-ship at San Francisco, Vancouver, Hongkong or Shanghai, and steaming right away to Nagasaki, Kôbe or Yokohama, and by changing steamers at either of these places on to Hakodate or Otaru in Yezo. Should, however, a traveller desire to go to Nemuro or Chishima, he must either make another change at Hakodate or go overland from that port, or Satporo, to Nemuro, and there take a steamer on. Or if a land journey from any of the principal ports of Japan proper be preferred, railways will be found to connect Nagasaki and Kôbe with Tôkyô, and thence one may go right up the Main-land to Aomori in the Province of Mutsu. Mail steamers of the Nippon Yûsen Kaisha take passengers thence across the Tsugaru Strait, a distance of fifty-nine miles, to Hakodate. A journey to Yezo is therefore no longer the tedious, difficult and perhaps hazardous undertaking that it was a very few years ago.

Once arrived in Hokkaidô, the journey to the different districts is easy and communication with the outer world quick and assured. Roads and the telegraph now run almost round the entire island of Yezo, and the Post Office service, which is wonderfully well developed, reaches every village. The foreign residents therefore of this part of the globe and all visitors who come here, are, by telegram, within one day of every other civilized part of the world, and within less than six weeks of New York or London by Mail. So rapidly and effectually has the Communication Department of Hokkaidô worked.

2.—THE AINUS.

The great attraction in Hokkaidô to those who travel for pleasure and education combined, letting alone the peculiarly wierd and wild scenery and the pleasures afforded to the sportsman, is in the Ainu race, or Aborigines of Japan, who, it appears, are gradually becoming extinct. Though this peculiar race of people was once very numerous and formerly inhabited the whole of Japan proper, they now number, as has been previously remarked, no more than 16,765 persons, and these are decreasing. Visitors to Japan should surely see something of them if possible. In a very few years they will, in all probability, become quite extinct, or at all events become so amalgamated with the immigrants as to become indistinguishable from the Japanese. Hokkaidô is the only place in the world where they can be seen untainted by European influence, for those who live in Russian Territory have now become quite Russianized. Here in Hokkaidô may be seen the oldest and newest peoples of this Ancient Empire side by side, two distinct and very different races, the one superseding the other;—intelligence, fore-thought, and energetic enterprise triumphing over ignorance, improvidence, and inaction. Here one may actually see that process of the gradual extinction of the Ainu and the appropriation of their land which has been going on for years; not indeed by cruelty and slaughter or owing to unfeeling wantonness, but simply because the Ainu have not the self-reliance and steady energy by which they could, if they chose, work and live happily side by side with the Japanese. But the race, simple, kind, truthful and child-like as we have found it, seems destined to pass away in a few years. Something it is hoped will be done for these poor people in the future. The Japanese are now waking up to their duty towards, and responsibility with regard to the Ainu and a society has been established which has for its object the “rescue” of the race. It remains to be seen what will be done by this Society. Those people who desire to see the Ainu in their own homes can do so by going to Usu in Volcano Bay from Hakodate, or by visiting Chitose from Satporo. But a far better idea of them may be had by allowing one's self a little more time and going to Piratoru in the Province of Hidaka.

MALE AND FEMALE AINUS OF YEZO ISLAND.



This is the old Ainu capital and is a most typical village ; it is surrounded by the most lovely scenery.

3.—SPORT.

(a) *Fishing.*

Sportsmen visiting Hokkaidô will not expect to find the rivers so full of fish as to be able to ford them dry-shod by walking upon the backs of salmon-trout, nor will they suppose that every time they go fishing it will be necessary to take a rifle in order to keep off the bears. Things are not after this fashion in Hokkaidô. The sportsman is not invariably successful. Several persons have been disappointed in game, having come either at the wrong season or not happened to hit upon the right spot. As a case in point, the present writer well remembers a gentleman staying with him several days in the hopes of getting a few trout. But he was disappointed, for, with the exception of a few very small fish, he caught nothing. Yet within two hours after he left us the salmon entered the river in thousands, and by night the Ainus had taken hundreds. This happened at Porobets at the very beginning of June. The best time for trout fishing in Yezo is June—July, and the rivers in which the fish abound at that season are, Yurap, Osamambe, and Usu in Volcano Bay; in Porobets, Shikiw, Saru, and Kushiro on the East coast ; in almost all the streams along the Northern coasts, and in the Ishikari and Shiribetsu on the West.

In speaking on this subject, Murry's Hand-book says, "There are two classes of sporting fish,—the *Shake*, or Salmon as known in Europe, and the *Masu* (*Salmon Japonicus*). The *Shake* is a full-sized salmon, and ascends the rivers in great quantities during the autumn and early winter. All the northern rivers hold the fish, which in Yezo are so plentiful that they fall an easy prey to crows and bears. Many salmon must weigh as much as 30 lbs. when caught ; but they afford no sport to the angler, since like salmon in other Pacific waters, they neither rise to a fly nor run to a spinning bait.

" Of the *Masu*, there are several varieties ; but they are all of the trout description, and they are all sporting fish. The true *Masu*

runs up the rivers from May to August, their ascent depending on the temperature of the water. Between 50° and 65° the fish are in the best condition. Below 50° they are not taken. An 8 lb. fish is a large one, the usual size being 5 lb. or 6 lb.

4.—SPORT.

(b) *Shooting.*

The time for shooting bears is the early spring and late autumn, but as to the best localities for bagging the animals it is better to take the advice of Ainu hunters on the spot, who know their haunts. In short, no one should go bear hunting without an Ainu guide. It will not always be found necessary to go off the beaten track in order to get a bear, for in the spring of 1892 the writer knew of six large animals being shot quite close to Ainu villages; two at Nupari-bets and four at Shiraoi along the highway to Satporo upon the South East coast of Yezo. They may also be found in great numbers at Etorop and Kunashiri in the Chishima group. Along the line from Satporo to Poronai, bear-tracks have been often seen. There is however one serious drawback to shooting at all in Hokkaidô, and that is the license. A Passport does not give permission to shoot even bears, and a shooting license does not extend beyond treaty limits, a distance of twenty-five miles around Hakodate, that being as yet the only open port in Hokkaidô. Those visitors to these islands who desire to shoot outside of treaty limits should, to avoid any unpleasantness, apply for permission at the Government Offices. Here we will also remark, for the benefit of those who travel for information, that the writer is sure the foreign residents of Hakodate, Satporo or Nemuro will always be found ready to supply any information they can to the enquirer. Not only so but the writer has himself always found the Government officers most courteous and willing to give any information they may be able to on every subject connected with Hokkaidô, its administration, people, and other topics of general interest.

5.—OUT-FIT.

(a) *Clothing.*

The out-fit one requires in visiting this part of Japan is substantially the same as that required for any other part of the Empire excepting that for winter wear,—the warmer one's clothing the better. A sheet and air pillow for night use will be found a great comfort. And, if one desires to get off the general beaten track and visit the Ainus, a mosquito net will be found necessary, as flies of various descriptions dwell here in great numbers. Flea-powder is quite a necessity, for fleas, of which there are millions, seem to have a special liking for American and European blood; a piece or two of soap or a few pieces of soap-paper, and two or three packets of candles should be brought; but do not forget pen, paper, and ink, and a good book or two in case of a rainy day. Above all things do not leave your towel behind, as those given by the Japanese at the inns are usually wet and are not much larger than an ordinary pocket-handkerchief. Those who desire to ride should provide themselves with a saddle and a pair of riding breeches.

6.—OUTFIT.

(b) *Food.*

Fairly good Japanese food is served at most of the inns one has to put up at, but as with the exception of a few places bread and beef cannot be obtained (and even rice, eggs or fish cannot always be had in Ainu villages), it is advisable to bring a few tins of biscuits, a pot of Liebig, and a little canned beef. Of course tea or coffee will not be forgotten. The writer has sometimes found Moore's Chocolate and a piece of bacon a great standby when spending a few months among the Ainus. However, provisions of every description, including fresh milk and eggs, can be purchased both at Hakodate and Satporo, and sometimes at Kushiro, Akkesh, Nemoro, Otaru and Esashi. A knife, fork and spoon, and a cork-screw will also be found useful. A good clasp-knife and a ball of twine, a spare button or two and needle and thread may come in handy sometimes, especially if one intends to spend any length of time in the mountains or among the Ainu.

7.—HOW TO SPEND A FORTNIGHT IN YEOZ.

I. *Hakodate.*

We will suppose the place of landing to have been Hakodate. There is no foreign hotel here, but good Japanese accommodation can be had at either of the inns named, Kakujô or Chigai-Sangi close to the landing-place. The traveller would find it a great help were he to call upon any of the foreign residents at this port, of whom there are eight families, and make enquiries of them as to Hakodate, its environments and accommodation. Most visitors who come to this town are struck with the resemblance of "Hakodate Head" to the Rock of Gibralter. The "Head" is simply a single mountain mass rising some 1150 feet above the level of the sea, situated at the extreme end of a narrow neck of land. The town is built at the foot of the northern slope and stretches out to the sandy plains beyond to the eastward. It has some fine looking buildings, as for example, the Postal-Telegraph offices, Town club, Mercantile School, Hospital, etc. The principal stores are, Kane-mori; Ima-ichi; Kane-nee and Yama-san. Good water has been laid on from Akagawa, distant about seven miles. There is regular communication by sea three times a week with Kôbe, Yokohama, and Otaru, and a daily Mail service between Aomori and Hakodate. By crossing the Strait to the former place one may reach Tôkyô in about thirty hours.

The traveller should spend at least half-a-day in visiting the Public Gardens, Museum, and the beautiful dell of Yachigachira, all of which lie on the eastern outskirts of the town. In the Museum a small collection of Ainu utensils and implements and some flint spear and arrow-heads, etc., relics of the stone age of Japan, may be seen, also an interesting collection of Yezo birds presented by the late Captain Blakiston. These latter, however, must be called for, for as a rule they are kept shut up in drawers to preserve them; but they may always be seen if asked for.

Hakodate Mountain should certainly be climbed. Forty minutes steady walking will easily bring one to its summit, where the view to be obtained is both extensive and picturesque. There are good paths running along the tops of all the ridges from

which several good bird's-eye views of the town and harbour may be obtained. Looking across the bay to the north-ward, the distant mountains, clothed as they are from the top down to the foot with vegetation, and having the bare grey peak of the Volcano *Koma-ga-take* well exposed above them in the back-ground, the view is really charming. Turning towards the south-west and south, the extreme northern part of the Mainland of Japan is to be seen. The very "tit-bits" of scenery, however, are those to be had by walking up the valley in the hill to a place called *Mizu-moto* and there branching off sharply to the left. By so doing and following the path there to be found to the end of the point, and thence round to the eastern part of this particular ridge, the views obtained will be very pleasing indeed.

II. *The Lakes and Koma-ga-take.*

Having spent two days in and about Hakodate, the visitor should proceed thence to the lakes of *Junsai-numa*,* situated two *ri* from the foot of the volcano called *Koma-ga-take*. Carriages to this place, or saddle-horses if desirable, may be obtained at Hakodate; the distance is seventeen miles. There are two hotels here but the one farthest from Hakodate is by far the best. It is called Maru-san. We should advise those who intend to go this way to Satporo to take saddle-horses through to Mori, keeping them a night at the lakes, for they would be found most useful in ascending the volcano. By leaving Hakodate at seven in the morning *Junsai-numa* will be reached by one o'clock. After luncheon a walk of ten minutes will bring one to the larger lake of the two and a very pleasant two or three hours may be spent in walking about its borders. The hotel is situated upon the edge of the smaller lake. The shores of the lakes are, as Murray truly remarks, "covered with luxuriant vegetation, while the islets furnish objective points for those who may wish to go out boating. The lake fish can be taken with a worm, but will not rise to a fly."

Early the next morning the horses may be saddled and ridden about half way up the volcano where they should be left in charge

* *Junsai-numa* takes its name from the lily (*Limnanthemum pectatum*) which grows, there, and which is used as an article of food.

of an attendant. From here the journey to the crater is about half an hour's walk. By leaving the hotel at six in the morning one may be back again very comfortably by twelve; at three or four o'clock the traveller may set out for Mori and there give up the horses. As, however, Mori is a most uninteresting place we advise spending one more night at the lakes. Then by leaving the following morning at seven, one may be at Mori in ample time to catch the steamer for Moruran, which leaves Mori at one o'clock. The best inn at Mori is *Yamaka*, and the best at Moruran is *Maru-ichi*.

III. *Moruran to Piratoru.*

According to the proposed plan, the evening of the fifth day will find the tourist at Moruran, 34 *ri* by road from Satporo. The steamer from Mori arrives here at about 4.30 o'clock. Moruran is a small town situated on a beautiful but small land-locked harbour on the eastern side of which is the terminus of the Satporo-Iwamizawa-Moruran railway. On the morning after arriving at Moruran a small open boat may be taken across the bay to the railway station at Itotsukerep and a ticket there procured for Tomakomai, distant 40 miles.

The line runs along the sea coast and passes through the villages of Washibets, Porobets and Shiraoi to Tomakomai, at which place the train arrives at ten o'clock. As the course of the railway is over quite level land, there is very little scenery of interest to be seen. At a place called *Rampok*, however, there is a tunnel 800 feet long, and a *ri* further on at *Ayero*, another 2,000 feet. At Tomakomai the Tourist should have his baggage taken to the inn named *Kane-su*, which is the best in the place. *But beware of the water here, for it is not good.* Immediately upon arrival horses should be hired for Yubutsu, distant 3 *ri*. But all luggage not required for three or four days may be left at Tomakomai till the return from Piratoru. Having arrived at Yubutsu fresh horses should be immediately ordered for Sarubutu, and luncheon can be taken while they are being caught and saddled, which will probably take about an hour. The charge for a horse varies from seven to nine *sen* a *ri* in the summer

according to the nature of the ground; it is always more among the mountains than on the plains. By ordering the horses quickly, Sarubutu, nearly 6 *ri* from Yubutsu, will be reached by seven o'clock. Sarubutu is a small village lying at the mouth of the Saru river; there is no choice of inns there, all being equally bad, one cannot therefore go to the wrong one. *Be particularly careful of the water here: it is a great place for ague.* Before retiring for the night do not forget to order horses for Piratoru and back. The distance is 4 *ri*; an attendant is always sent to take charge of the horses but nothing extra is paid for his services. The journey should be commenced by seven, so that a good long time for rest and observation may be had at Piratoru. On arrival Chief Penri should be enquired after, as he knows how to cater for foreigners, having had much experience in this line. But one must be careful with him or he will get thoroughly intoxicated before anything has been seen of the place. The scenery about Piratoru is exquisitely grand, and the village itself prettily laid out. It is well worth a visit, and is quite a typical Ainu town. If asked, Penri will take the visitor to see the Japanese shrine of Yoshitsune, the hero who fled to Yezo from Japan in ancient times, and who is said to have taught the Ainus many useful things.

IV. *Piratoru to Satporo.*

After having leisurely looked about Piratoru, which by the by, has only thirty-two huts in it, the horses can be resaddled and the return journey to Sarubutu commenced. Horses should again be ordered over-night to Yubutsu and thence to Tomakomai. By setting out at eight this place may be reached soon after noon, the distance being nine *ri*. As this will probably be too late for the train to Satporo, nothing remains for it but to spend the night here and go on in the morning. It should have been mentioned that there are two Piratorus, but the tourist should be careful to go to the Piratoru in which Penri lives; this is about half a mile beyond the first.

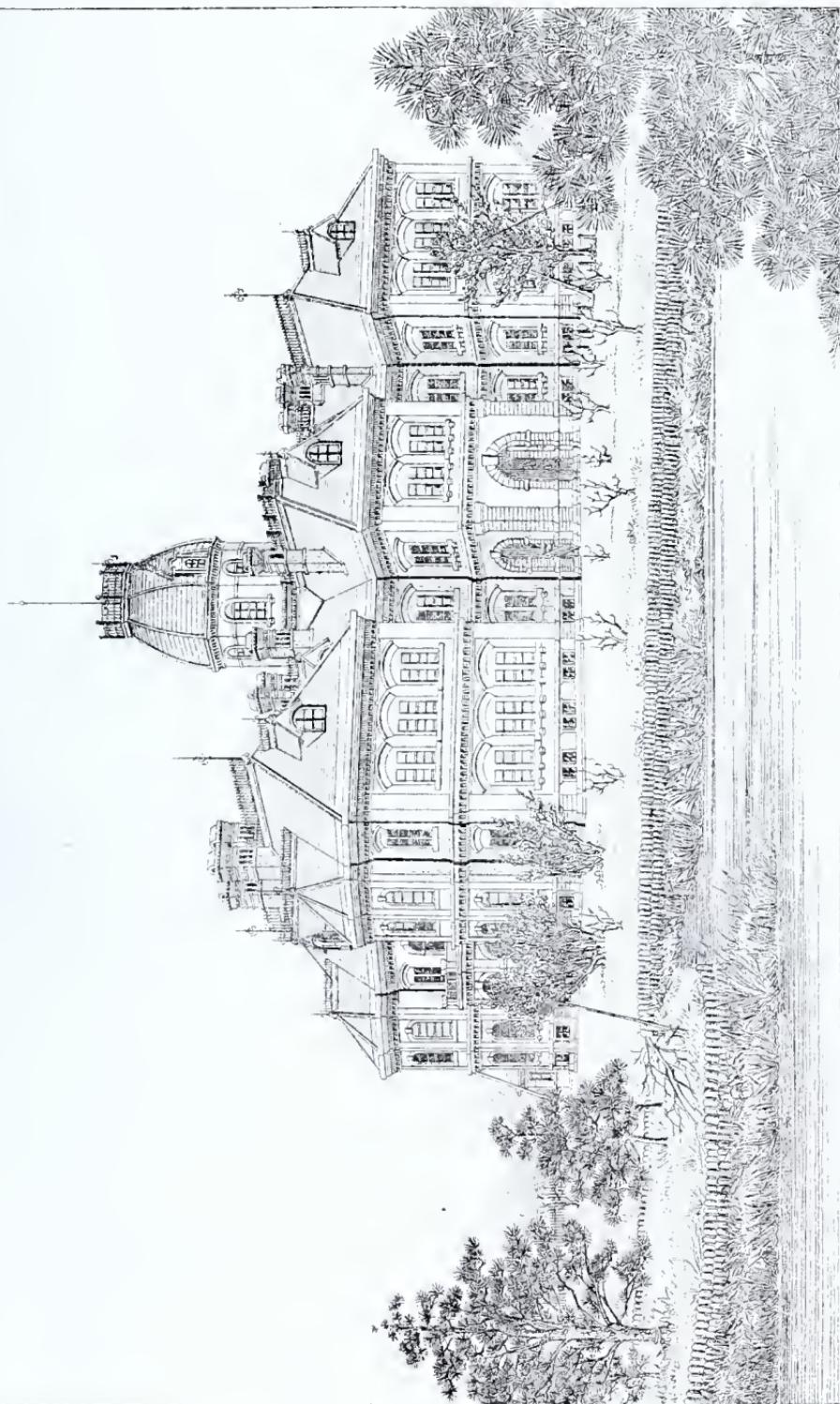
The distance by rail from Tomakomai to Satporo is 67 miles, the line through from Itotsukerep being altogether 107 miles. From Tomakomai the track changes its course to almost due north

and so on to Iwamizawa, at which place the passenger must change carriages for Satporo. The scenery along the line cannot be said to be grand, for the greater part of it lies through thickly wooded plain, and in some places swampy country is traversed. But Satporo has to be reached, and this is the quickest and prettiest way of getting there. Between Iwamizawa and Satporo the scenery becomes more interesting and one very pretty view of the Ishkari river is to be had from the car windows.

5.—SATPORO.

On arriving at Satporo the traveller will find the *Hohei-kwan*, which was originally built for the Imperial Residence, the best hotel. Everything here is on the American style and the charge is \$3 a day, but special arrangements may be made if desirable. The best Japanese inns are *Yoshida* and *Yamagata-ya*, and the charges they make are usually \$1 a day; for this very good semi-foreign food is provided. This city, which is the Capital of Hokkaidô, did not, as Murray truly remarks, "grow up naturally like Matsumae in old times and Hakodate in more recent days", in obedience to the requirements of trade. It was created by official fiat during the present reign, and depends for its prosperity chiefly on the public institutions established there, notably on the Agricultural College, which is the last remnant of the Kaitakushi, or Colonization Commission, and on the Military Colony (Tonden-hei) in the neighbouring country. These remarks refer more to the past than to the present, for Satporo is now more dependent upon its own exertions than upon the help of the Government. The Capitol is a large and imposing red brick building built in European style, and is equal to anything of the kind in Tôkyô. There is a silk, hemp, flax, and a sugar factory; also a saw-mill, flour-mill, brewery, and an establishment for making wine and brandy, all belonging to private companies. The College Museum and gardens are well worth visiting. Salmon and trout fishing may be had in the Toyohira river which runs through Satporo, at Tsuishikari five *ri* away, and in a stream called Osat-nai about seven *ri* down the road towards Chitose.

THE HOKKAIDO GOVERNMENT BUILDING IN SAPPORO.



The most pleasant walks near Satporo are:—Round the College farm, park, and botanical gardens; to a well-kept horse-farm at Makomanai; and to the top of Maru-yama, whence a splendid view of Satporo and the plain on which it is built can be obtained. For longer excursions one may go to Kariki about 1 *ri* away and there take an Ainu canoe and go down the stream to Tsushikari and up the Ishikari river a *ri* and a half to Ebets. At Ebets the train should be taken for Satporo. The Poronai coal-mine may be visited by those who take an interest in these things; by leaving Satporo at seven by train, there will be ample time to look over the mine and return to Satporo the same day.

Should one have time to spare, he may hire a horse or *Jinrikisha* to a place called Jozanke, distant 7 *ri*, where there are some hot springs. Here also good trout fishing may sometimes be had in June and July. Some travellers have spent a day by going to the Chitose lakes, 7 *ri* away, but the mosquitoes and gadflies are such a terrible nuisance that the writer cannot conscientiously advise the trip, for these pests render all enjoyment of the beauties of nature quite out of the question.

Having spent three days about Satporo we should advise the traveller to leave by rail for Otaru, distance 22 miles, on the afternoon of the fourth, ready to take the steamer for Hakodate, Yokohama or Kôbe at noon the following day; the voyage to Hakodate takes 18 hours. Otaru is a growing place and very busy, being the terminus of the Poronai railway. The best hotels are *Itchû-ya* and *Kito*. At Temiya, which lies at the extreme end of Otaru, there is a small cave on the back of which there are a few curious characters which, because none has yet succeeded in deciphering them, have been thought by some to be simple nonsense. What the inscriptions really are no one seems to know. In all probability they are the work of ancient Ainus and may some day be understood.

We have now come to the end of the fort-night we proposed to spend in Yezo, and our time-table is as follows:—

Days spent at Hakodate	2
To Junsai-numa.....	1
Climbing Koma-ga-take	1
From the lakes to Moruran	1

Moruran to Sarubutu.....	1
Sarubutu to Piratoru and back	1
From Sarubutu to Tomakomai	1
Tomakomai to Satporo	1
Days spent about Satporo	3
Otaru	1
Otaru to Hakodate	1
Total of days.....	<u>14</u>



A P P E N D I X.

It must not be supposed that there are no other places of interest to be visited in Hokkaidô than those briefly touched upon in the foregoing pages of this little book. It was not the intention in writing it to supply a general guide or Hand-book for the whole of Hokkaidô, but to give a few brief and useful hints to any who may pay a passing visit to this part of the world. However, for the benefit of those travellers who have plenty of leisure, we would mention the three following places, which are interesting localities to visit. Viz:—Usu, Noboribetsu Volcano and Kamikawa.

Usu.

The village of Usu lies in Volcano-Bay, five English miles distant from Mombetsu, and is one of the loveliest spots of the kind in Hokkaidô. The village, which is almost exclusively Ainu, is situated upon the shores of a small, but most beautiful harbour. Should an artist visit this place he will find it a very paradise; the bold rocks lying off the coast and the exquisite scenery around him would afford him great delight, and he would find plenty of employment for brush or pencil. The simplest way of getting to Usu is to take a small steamer from Mororan to Mombetsu. Arrived here the traveller should put up at the Inn known as *Abe Nosuke*, and, as there is no inn that can be recommended at Usu itself, should make this his head-quarters. Horses should be taken at Mombetsu for Usu and upon arrival enquiries made for the hut of the Ainu chief named *Rikotuk*. The horses may here be handed over to an attendant and Rikotuk asked to act as pilot about the village and harbour. There are 123 huts in this district and a population of 470 Ainus.

About 4 miles inland from the village is the Usu volcano, now dormant, from the edge of whose crater several extensive and beautiful views may be obtained. By following the crater along towards

the North the traveller would, in an hour, arrive at the shores of a large and pretty lake said to be crowded with trout. A visit both to the village and volcano is highly recommended. There is a good path up the mountain and horses can be ridden nearly to the edge of the lake. Three days at least should be devoted to this trip, though of course it may be done in two with a rush.

NOBORIBETSU VOLCANO.

The little hamlet of Noboribetsu is situated upon the Mororan-Iwamizawa Railway line and is 12 English miles distant from Mororan. The village takes its name from a river, upon the right-hand side of whose banks it is situated, and which is called by the Ainus *Nupuru-pet*, "the muddy river." This river is so named on account of the extremely yellow colour of its waters—caused by one of its branches taking its rise in the crater of a volcano a few miles inland. This volcano is of a very peculiar and interesting formation, having two craters, an upper and a lower, from both of which boiling water, highly pregnant with sulphur, flows with great rapidity. There was formerly a boiling lake in the upper crater 60 yards square, from the back of which a geyser threw up columns of water every five seconds to the height of about thirty feet. Both lake and geyser have now however disappeared. But in the lower crater there are numerous small geyser-like ejections of boiling water, but these are continuous and not intermittent. This volcano is well worth a visit, though the noise caused by the steam issuing from the various fissures in the crater is likely to cause one to feel a sort of uncanny sensation. About 200 yards below the crater there are some hot baths famous both among Ainus and Japanese for their medicinal properties. The volcano is only 5 English miles from the railway-station, so the journey is easily accomplished in one day. Intending visitors should procure horses at Noboribetsu for this trip as the river has to be forded before reaching the volcano. It would be more prudent to return to Noboribetsu to spend the night than to stay at the volcano.

KAMIKAWA.

In the year 1890 it was determined by the Authorities to build a Northern Palace for the Emperor in the extensive and fertile plain of Kamikawa, 91 English miles distant from Satporo, and situated in the centre of the Island of Yezo. Since that time things have progressed slowly but surely and though the Palace itself has not yet been commenced a goodly number of houses and offices have been built. Kamikawa, which is to be the name of the new city, will take the place of Satporo as the Official Capital of Hokkaidô, and will be the railway centre for this Island. Though the line only reaches to Sorachi-buto at present, a distance of 51 miles from Satporo, thus leaving 40 miles to be traversed by road, there is a good deal of business already springing up in the place. When the line has been completed to the new Capital, this will be found to be a place well worth visiting, for the scenery along the Ishikari river and the views from the surrounding mountains are said to be particularly fine.

HAKODATE.

Before finally laying down my pen I have been asked to add one word more about Hakodate. Though Satporo is at present the official capital of Hokkaidô, and this place has at length been ordered to retire in favour of Kamikawa, yet the fact cannot be overlooked that Hakodate is the *natural* capital of this part of the Emperor's dominions. Its easy access and geographical position render it so. History shows that it has grown into existence and importance as circumstances urged it. It has never required to be forced, like some exotic plant, to make it grow. Matsumae of old could not have existed without it, and the land around the shores of the Hakodate Bay was the first in Yezo ever cultivated by the Japanese.

The town, with its 60,000 inhabitants is situated on the southern-most shores of Yezo and is in close proximity with the Main Island of Japan, and within easy reach of the great rice-growing and silk-raising centres of Sendai and the districts immediately around that Province. It has one of the finest harbours in the Empire

and certainly the best in Hokkaidô. Its waters are deep and the anchorage all that can be desired. The British and other fleets find the harbour a pleasant refuge, during the summer months, from the great heat of Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kôbe and Yokohama.

Of so much importance, indeed, is Hakodate considered to be, that its merchants contemplate building a wharf for the shipping and constructing a railway line viâ Mori to Moruran in order to bring down Poronai, Sorachi and Yubari coals for the steamships frequenting these waters. The estimated price for the coal per ton is four and a half Japanese *yen*.

And again, it should be remembered that Hakodate is on the Tsugaru Strait which connects the Japan Sea with the Pacific Ocean. It is thought that should there be a plentiful supply of coals always obtainable at Hakodate, ships running between Hongkong and Vancouver will call here to coal. That Hakodate is, commercially speaking, a very important place in Hokkaidô cannot in fairness be denied. The imports and exports at this place amounted to nearly 2,000,000 of *yen* in the year 1891.



THE HARBOUR AND TOWN OF HAKODATE

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING HAKODATE, HOKKAIDO, NIPPON.

Longitude East of Greenwich	$140^{\circ} 44'$	24
North Latitude.....	$41^{\circ} 46'$	30
Temperature ($F.$)	$8^{\circ} 25$	
Number of Houses	12,734	
Population	57,943	
Area of the Harbour (acres)	1,858	
Government Buildings	8	
English Consulate	1	
Chinese Consulate	1	
Hospitals.....	8	
Physicians	87	
Commercial School.....	1	
Mercantile Marine School	1	
Primary Schools	18	
Pupils	4,266	
Various Kinds of Schools	10	
Pupils	600	
American, English, French and Russian Missionary Schools	4	
Pupils	400	
Buddhist Temples	13	
Catholic, Greek, and Protestant Churches	4	
National Banks	4	
Commercial Companies	5	
Steamship Companies	5	
Newspapers	3	
Number of Ships (departures) 1891	4,890	
Tonnage of Ships	945,642	
Number of Ships (arrivals).....	4,773	
Tonnage of Ships	963,954	

FROM HAKODATE TO

		Miles.
Tôkyô (Capital) via Aomori.....	by sea 59 ,, land 455	} 514
Yokohama	,, sea	529
Kôbe viâ Yokohama	,, "	876
Nagasaki viâ Bakwan		831
Aomori		59
Sapporo viâ Otaru.....	by sea 221 ,, land 22	} 243
Sapporo viâ Mororan	,, sea 22 ,, land 111	} 133
Nemuro	,, sea	295
Otaru	,, "	221
San Francisco		4,469
Shanghai		1,220
Hongkong		1,825
Vladivostock		424

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING HOKKAIDO, NIPPON.

Area of Hokkaido	sq. miles	41,396
Coast line	"	3,937
Number of Houses		87,346
Population		429,837
Arable land	acres	2,425,755
Marine products.....	yen	7,964,669
Agricultural products.....	,,	1,239,292
Mineral products	,,	1,296,598
Domestic Exports		8,084,487
Domestic Imports		8,517,134
Foreign Exports		638,709
Foreign Imports.....		217,481

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KANEMORI,

森

General Merchant.

Importer.

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Cotton, Silk, & Woollen Goods;

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All goods are imported direct by the Firm.

PRICES REASONABLE.

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We are ready to act as Agents of Foreign Factories.

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Manilla Ropes, Canvas, Blocks, Anchors and Chains,
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MY OWN MAKE

PRICES REASONABLE.



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PAPERS OF ALL KINDS,

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Large Stock on Hand. **PRICES MODERATE.**

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A LARGE DEPOT

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HAKODATE.

ALL THE MOST APPROVED STYLES OF
FINE PORTRAITURE.

造 研 本 田

師 真 寫

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ESTABLISHED 1878.

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IS THE OLDEST AND

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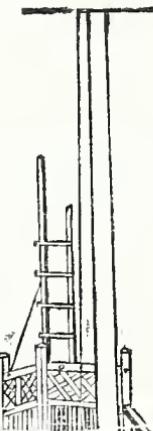
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Vegetables,
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We have for MANY YEARS
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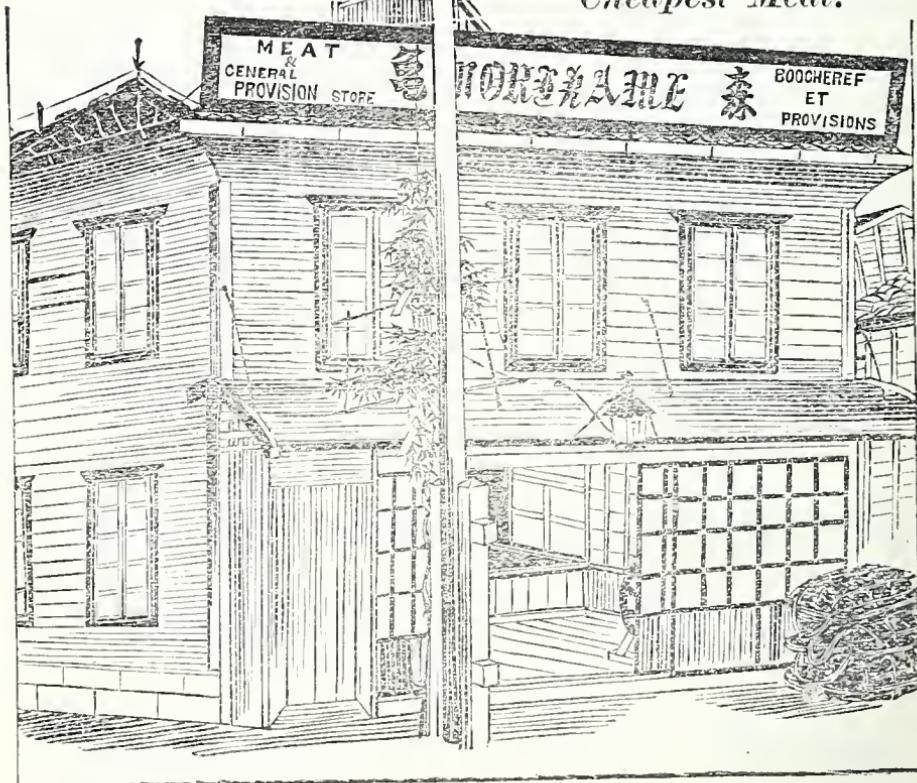
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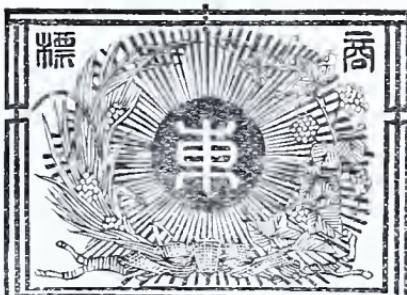
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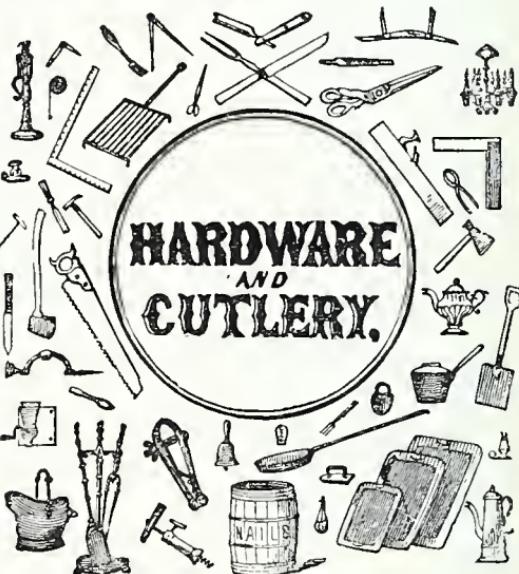


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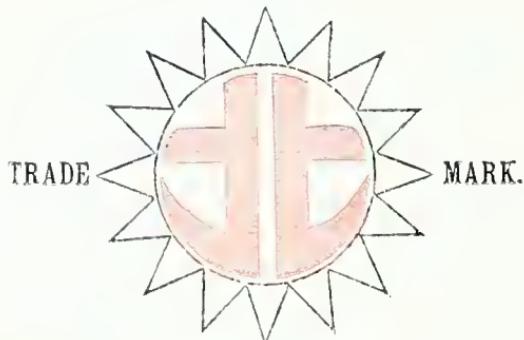
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